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MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE TRENDS
Office of Research & Analysis ■ Department of Labor & Industry ■ 4th Quarter 1999 ■ Vol. 29, No. 4

STATE DOCUMENTS

Economic highlights and employment outlook

Montana's **Civilian Labor Force** averaged 473,600 the 4th quarter of 1999—down 6,800 over the quarter, but up 5,500 over the year.

Employment

The number of Montanans **employed** during the quarter averaged 450,800—down 9,300 over the quarter, but up 8,500 over the year.

Quarterly Employment Trends

Quarter	Montana Civilian Labor Force*	MONTANA Montanans Employed	Montanans Unemployed	Unemployment Rate (Montana)	UNITED STATES Unemployment Rate (U.S.)
1999 - 4th	473,600	450,800	22,800	4.8%	3.8%
1999 - 3rd	480,400	460,100	20,300	4.2%	4.2%
1999 - 2nd	476,800	453,200	23,600	5.0%	4.2%
1999 - 1st	470,400	440,300	30,100	6.4%	4.7%
1998 - 4th	468,100	442,300	25,800	5.5%	4.1%

*Rounded Civilian Labor Force Numbers, 1999 Benchmark (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Unemployment

The number of Montanans **unemployed** during the quarter averaged 22,800—up 2,500 over the quarter, but down 3,000 over the year.

The average **unemployment rate** for the quarter was 4.8 percent—up 0.6 percent over the quarter, but down 0.7 percent over the year.

(See jobs by industry on page 5)

What skills and qualities are employers looking for in workers?

by Bob Schleicher, Research Analyst
Office of Research and Analysis

Advances in technology have impacted nearly every job and industry in this country and changed the basic face of work, while raising the level of American productivity.

Are Montana employers having difficulties finding qualified workers to fill these jobs? What kinds of skills and qualities are they looking for in employees? Which employers are having the most difficulty?

To answer these questions, the Office of Research and Analysis conducted a survey of employers during the summer of 1999. Nearly 1,700 employers representing all industries responded to a 1-page questionnaire.

Interestingly, the survey found that positive work habits and other behavior-related competencies ranked higher in importance to employers than technical skills.

Following is the question-by-question information gleaned from the 3-question survey:

Question 1: "Please rank each competency you look for when hiring an employee (with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest)."

As you can see in the Question 1 table on the next page, positive work habits had the highest weighted

(Continued on next page)

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average response. The ability to follow directions was 2nd, interpersonal skills was 3rd, and pleasant attitudes was 4th. Advanced technology skills (the ability to create electronic spreadsheets or do limited computer programming, networking or troubleshooting) ranked the lowest.

Question 1 ▼

What Montana employers look for when hiring employees
(In order of importance with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest)

Competencies	*Average Rank*
Positive work habits	4.71
Ability to follow directions	4.60
Interpersonal skills	4.52
Pleasant attitudes	4.51
Ability to work well as a team member	4.42
Ability to work with minimal supervision	4.42
Listening skills	4.39
Ability to learn new tasks	4.37
Ability to assume responsibilities	4.21
Reasoning and problem solving skills	4.21
Ability to handle customer questions	4.18
Resource and time management skills	4.08
Speaking skills	3.91
Basic reading skills	3.90
Basic math skills	3.88
Basic writing skills	3.59
Leadership skills	3.55
Basic tool or technology skills	3.34
Advanced tool or technology skills	2.49

Question 2: "In general, have you had any problems finding qualified workers?" (Note: Data could not be combined, so is shown by industry. The highest percentages for each industry are underlined.)

Montana employers sometimes had difficulties finding qualified workers. Employers in the retail, construction, agriculture and wholesale trade industries had more problems finding qualified workers. Employers in the finance, insurance, and real estate, transportation, communications and utilities and mining industries had fewer difficulties. See Question 2 table for specifics.

Question 2 ▼

Montana employers who had problems finding qualified workers
(Data shown by industry, with highest percentage underlined.)

	Very Often	*Often*	*Sometimes*	*Rarely*	*Never*
Agriculture	22.4%	29.9%	29.3%	13.2%	5.2%
Mining	17.6%	21.8%	41.2%	14.3%	5.0%
Construction	25.6%	28.4%	33.5%	10.2%	2.3%
Manufacturing	23.1%	24.2%	40.9%	8.6%	3.2%
TCU*	14.5%	22.1%	38.4%	21.5%	3.5%
Wholesale Trade	17.5%	32.5%	35.6%	10.0%	4.4%
Retail Trade	18.5%	37.5%	28.2%	13.0%	2.8%
FIRE**	8.5%	23.8%	38.6%	21.2%	7.9%
Services	16.9%	28.2%	30.5%	17.8%	6.6%

*Transportation, Communications and Utilities
**Finance, Insurance and Real Estate

Question 3: If you had difficulties finding qualified workers, "which competencies/attributes listed ... are the most difficult to find when you hire a new employee? Please list the top 3 ... in order of importance to your organization."

As shown in the Question 3 table, positive work habits ranked the highest among the competencies/attributes, followed by the ability to work with minimal supervision and the ability to assume responsibilities.

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Many employers listed difficult-to-find competencies or attributes not mentioned on the survey form. Strong work ethic ranked 6th in the overall list.

Question 3 ▼

Competencies and attributes Montana employers say they have trouble finding when hiring new employees

Competency/Attribute	*Percentage*
Positive work habits	17.6%
Ability to work with minimal supervision	9.7%
Ability to assume responsibilities	7.4%
Ability to follow directions	6.7%
Interpersonal skills	6.3%
Strong work ethic	5.6%
Reasoning and problem solving skills	5.1%
Job experience	4.4%
Pleasant attitudes	4.3%
Ability to work well as a team member	4.3%
Resource and time management skills	3.8%
Worker integrity/honesty	3.4%
Ability to learn new tasks	3.3%
Ability to handle customer questions & complaints	3.3%
Listening skills	2.6%
Basic writing skills	2.3%
Basic science skills	2.0%
Worker uses common sense	2.0%
Basic tool or technology skills	1.6%
Basic math skills	1.2%
Leadership skills	1.2%
Speaking skills	0.6%
Flexibility	0.5%
Basic reading skills	0.4%
Worker availability	0.3%
Works safely	0.1%
Other competency	0.0%
Total	*100.0%*

Interestingly, basic math, tool and reading skills ranked low. Employers said they had more difficulty finding workers with positive work habits and the abilities to work with little supervision and assume responsibilities than they did in finding workers with basic skills. Is this due to the nature of the jobs performed or could it be that workers already have the basic math, tool and reading skills?

Conclusion: positive work habits and attitudes most important

The overall results show that employers value highly positive work habits and attitudes, and these are among the most difficult to find when hiring new workers. And employers generally are having difficulties finding qualified workers.

Interestingly, given the more high-tech nature of work today, positive work habits and other behavior-related competencies ranked higher in importance. Why?

One answer may be that, while many jobs use more technology than in the past, higher technological skills may not be needed. For example, the grocery scanning system in supermarkets is very high tech, but the greatest part of the checker's job using the technology is extremely low tech, consisting of dragging the product's Universal Product Code across the scanner.

Another answer may be that technology skills may be taught on the job.

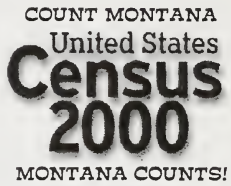
A more in-depth analysis by industry will be published in the fall of 2000 to give a better understanding of the data. ■

Census 2000 and the American Community Survey

How people use the Census

Census 2000 workers are getting the word out around the land that participation in the decennial census brings many benefits.

People from many walks of life use decennial census data to advocate for causes, research business markets, locate pools of skilled workers and prevent diseases.



Government programs use decennial census statistics to help identify which communities need more help for such things as job training, Head Start or the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program—and then distribute money in a fair and equitable way to those most in need.

Improving reservation counts

Census workers are paying particular attention to populations that have been undercounted during past decennial censuses, including American Indians living on reservations.

Census officials believe Indians living on reservations in Montana were undercounted by 9.2 percent during the 1990 Census. And, when undercounts occur, millions of dollars in federal funding for housing, health care and other services are lost because funding is based, at least in part, on census figures.

This time around, the Bureau of the Census is working with tribal governments to establish working relations. All Montana tribes have formed "complete count" committees to assist the bureau. And tribal members are being hired as decennial census workers to do face-to-face interviews on their own reservations.

American Community Survey

During a decennial census, 5 out of 6 of the nation's housing units receive a short form with 7 questions—and 1 of 6 receives the census long form with 52 questions. Data gathered from the long form provides a statistical picture of trends that affect our nation—but information is often not current enough for good decision making.

In response, the Census Bureau is developing a large new monthly household survey called the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS is being introduced in 4 phases at selected sites around the nation and will replace the census long form in 2010, if approved by Congress.

At present, the ACS contains only those questions Congress has already approved for the census long form. Data from the ACS will provide information about family structure, children, income, poverty and education for every state—as well as every city, county, town or population group of 65,000 people or more.

The monthly survey will be based on a sample of 3 million addresses a year (3 percent of households). Current plans call for full implementation in every county starting in 2003.

Beginning in the summer of 2004, it is expected that estimates will be available each year for areas and population groups of 65,000 or more.

For populations of less than 65,000, it will be necessary to accumulate or average data over several years to obtain estimates. These multiyear estimates will be updated each year.

In addition, the ACS will eventually provide states with data for statistical models that use state program records along with decennial census data.

Main advantages of survey

The ACS will help community planners, government agencies and the private sector understand the ever-changing demand for services by:

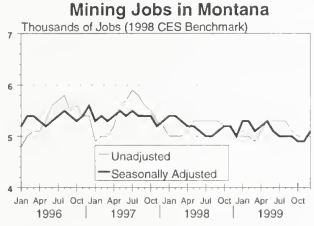
- providing more up-to-date information;
- allowing more effective targeting of populations requiring assistance, such as American Indians living on reservations;
- simplifying census data collection and processing by eliminating the long form;
- improving coverage through a continuously updated address list and regular interaction with local officials;
- and establishing a network of professional, experienced field representatives in hard-to-enumerate areas. ■

Wage and salary jobs by industry sectors

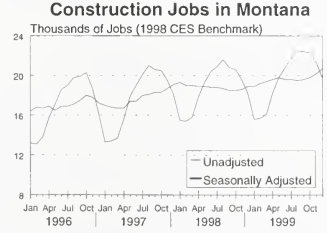
(NOTE: Numbers may not total due to rounding.)

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in Montana averaged 388,300 jobs for 4th quarter 1999—up 2,000 jobs over the quarter, and up 9,300 jobs over the year.

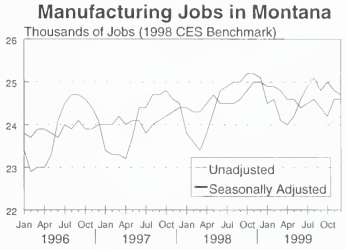
MINING averaged 5,000 jobs—down about 200 jobs over the quarter, and down about 100 over the year.



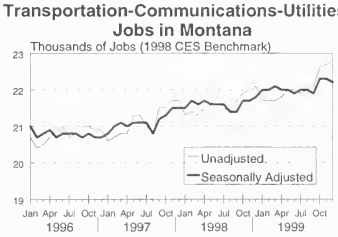
CONSTRUCTION averaged 21,100 jobs—down about 1,100 jobs over the quarter, but up about 1,600 jobs over the year. Over the quarter, **general building contractors** was up about 200 jobs, but **heavy construction** and **special trade** were down by about 900 and 500 jobs, respectively. All sectors were up over the year, with **general building contractors** up 800 jobs, **special trade** up 700 and **heavy construction** up about 100.



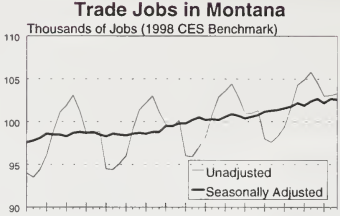
MANUFACTURING averaged 24,800 jobs—nearly even over the quarter, and down about 400 jobs over the year.



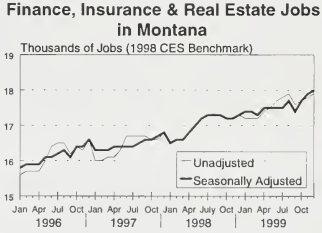
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS & UTILITIES (TCU) averaged 22,700 jobs—up about 700 over the quarter, and also up about 700 over the year. **Local & interurban transportation** was up about 400 jobs over the quarter. **Trucking & warehousing** was up about 300 jobs over the year.



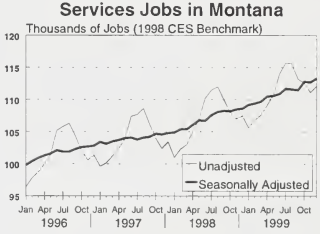
TRADE jobs averaged 103,100 jobs—down about 2,000 jobs over the quarter, but up about 2,000 jobs over the year. Over the quarter, **eating and drinking places** was down about 2,300 jobs, while **department stores** was up 500. Over the year, **gas stations, eating and drinking places** and **miscellaneous retail** were each up about 400 jobs.



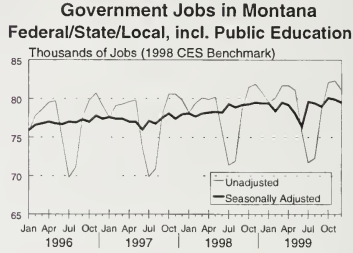
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE (FIRE) averaged 17,800 jobs for the quarter—staying the same over the quarter, and up about 600 jobs over the year, spread fairly evenly across FIRE's sectors.

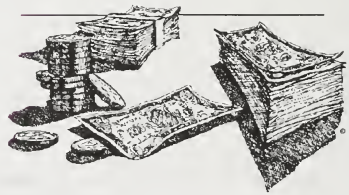


SERVICES averaged 111,900 jobs—down about 2,900 jobs over the quarter, but up about 4,400 over the year. The largest over-the-quarter decreases came in **hotels & other lodging** and **amusement, including movies**. The largest over-the-year increases came in **social services, hospitals, membership organizations** and **amusement, including movies**.



TOTAL GOVERNMENT averaged 81,800 jobs—up 7,600 jobs over the quarter, and up about 400 jobs over the year. Seasonal increases took place over the quarter in **local education** (7,500 jobs) and **state education** (3,200 jobs), while seasonal decreases took place in **total federal government** (1,400 jobs) and **other local government** (1,300 jobs). **Other local government** was up 200 jobs over the year.





Average weekly hours and earnings

Average weekly earnings for production workers averaged $379.20 for the quarter—down $6.75 over the quarter, but up $9.41 over the year.

Average weekly hours averaged 32.3—down 1.0 hour over the quarter, but up 2-tenths of an hour over the year.

Average hourly earnings averaged $11.74 for the quarter—up 15 cents over the quarter, and up 22 cents over the year. ■

Industry news from around the state

(Gathered primarily from state newspaper reports)

Agriculture

⇨**Two large agricultural cooperatives**—Farmland Industries and Cenex Harvest States—have merged to form the United Country Brands cooperative. The cooperatives' separate brand names won't change. Corporate headquarters will be in Kansas City.

⇨**A Kalispell business,** Ackerman Food Enterprises, is growing 8 varieties of sprouts that it sells to area grocery stores and restaurants along with hydroponics-grown lettuce and zucchini. The 5-employee company also bakes cookies and cakes.

⇨**United Agri Products** is closing its grain terminal and feed store in Belgrade, but plans to expand its fertilizer plant there. United Agri says it is also closing its Lewistown operation, but that Billings and Great Falls will remain as full-service facilities in Montana.

Mining

⇨**The Upper Tenmile Creek and Basin Creek areas** near Helena have been listed as Superfund cleanup sites, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Fifty abandoned mine sites have been identified along the 2 watersheds.

⇨**A newly formed Helena firm, Sterling Mining Co.,** has purchased the Troy Mine and the proposed Rock Creek Mine from ASARCO. A Sterling spokesperson says the Troy Mine south of Troy, closed due to low prices in 1993, won't be reopened until copper and silver prices rise. The proposed Rock Creek Mine near Noxon is in the permitting process.

Construction

⇨**About $258 million worth** of federally funded highway construction was done in Montana in 1999, according to the state Department of Transportation. A spokesperson for the department says mild fall weather allowed for a longer highway construction season than normal. About 2,500 men and 500 women worked on 112 projects during the height of the construction season—nearly 450 of them Native American.

⇨**Work on the $25 million State Capitol** renovation project is proceeding on schedule, according to the state architect. Work crews are expected to finish work on the east wing and center of the building by mid-May 2000 and to finish with the west wing before the 2001 Legislature convenes.

⇨**Barrett Memorial Hospital** in Dillon has announced plans to construct a $3.5 million Medical Office Building addition and do $700,000 worth of remodeling to the hospital's surgery, labor delivery and recovery-postpartum areas.

⇨**Construction has begun** on the $4.5 million Hawthorn Inns & Suites hotel in Great Falls at a location overlooking the Missouri River near Broadwater Bay.

⇨**A Hampton Inn, Billings** is being built in Billings.

⇨**A new shopping mall** is under construction in Bozeman. According to newspaper reports, the Bridger Peaks Town Center is to include Pier 1, Gap and Old Navy stores—plus a Denny's Diner.

Manufacturing

⇨Asarco Inc. has been acquired by Mexican mining company Grupo Mexico. Asarco, which owns a lead smelter in East Helena that employs about 250 workers, will become a subsidiary of Grupo Mexico (also referred to as GMexico), but will keep its separate identity for the time being.

⇨The Livingston Rebuild Center (LRC) continues to lay off workers and its president says the company—down from 240 to fewer than 100 workers in the past 2 years— is likely to get even smaller before business picks up. He cites railroad mergers and a glut of new locomotives on the rails as 2 reasons why the locomotive rebuilding and leasing business has fallen off. The company stopped buying health insurance for its employees in June and has put its brand new employee fitness center up for sale. Meanwhile, LRC workers voted in October to be represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Livingston Rebuild operates a smaller facility in Richland, Wash.

⇨Anchor Gaming has decided to move some of its 40 financial and human resource jobs from Bozeman to corporate headquarters in Las Vegas. Employees in those positions have been invited to relocate. The company earlier laid off about 30 of its 460 workers in the Bozeman area because of a decrease in demand for the gambling manufacturing firm's products. A spokesperson says the laid-off manufacturing employees will receive a severance package from the company, formerly known as Powerhouse Technologies.

⇨Plum Creek Timber Co. says it will start building a $69 million fiberboard manufacturing plant in the spring next to its existing fiberboard plant in Columbia Falls. The new plant will be able to make a thinner product and should boost fiberboard production by 70 percent, according to a spokesperson. About 20 new full-time jobs should be created.

⇨Louisiana-Pacific has announced that it will double the size of its Deer Lodge sawmill and upgrade equipment. There should be little work disruption during the 2-year project, as the new mill building will be built over the existing structure and then the old one will be torn down. About 280 workers are employed at the sawmill. A spokesperson says no new jobs will be created by the project.

⇨American Timber Co. has announced that it will close its Olney lumber mill next summer because of a dwindling federal timber supply. The family-owned mill employs about 145 workers.

Transportation, Communications & Utilities

⇨Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp. and Canadian National Railway Co. say they have plans to merge. If the merger is realized, the new Montreal-based company would be called North American Railways and be the largest railroad in North America. The merger would have to be approved by shareholders of both companies, along with regulatory agencies in Canada and the United States.

⇨Montana Power Co. has bought a Missoula-based company, One Call Locators Inc., that locates underground wires and pipes for excavating companies. The company will remain headquartered in Missoula. It has about 140 employees in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Arizona. A Montana Power spokesperson says Montana Power hopes to expand One Call into a national company.

⇨MDU Resources Group, Inc. has announced the acquisition of natural gas and telecommunications contractor MTN Utility Construction and Design (MTN Utility) of Helena. MTN Utility will be operated as a subsidiary of Utility Services, Inc., which is a subsidiary of MDU Resources. MTN Utility employs about 100 workers during its peak construction season.

⇨**A local exchange telephone firm** located in Monroe, La. has purchased Kalispell-based Digisys, Inc., a firm that provides Internet access, electronic commerce applications and web page design for customers in northwestern Montana. A CenturyTel press release says all Digisys employees will be offered positions with the telephone company.

Finance, Insurance & Real Estate

⇨**Stockman Bank** has announced that it is purchasing 6 Western Security Bank branch locations in Glasgow, Hardin, Malta, Miles City, Plentywood and Sidney. A spokesperson says Stockman Bank will then sell the Glasgow and Malta branches to First Security Bank of Havre.

⇨**Glacier Bank** is selling its Hamilton branch to Ravalli County Bank.

Trade

⇨**Home Depot Inc.** has announced that it is building stores in Missoula on Reserve St. and in Great Falls at Great Falls Marketplace. Home Depot is a large home improvement store chain with more than 865 stores in 45 states, Canada, Chile and Puerto Rico.

⇨**Wal-Mart is expanding** its Bozeman, Billings, Great Falls and Helena stores into Super Centers that include full-scale grocery stores. It is also looking at the possibility of building a Super Center in Missoula, which already has a regular Wal-Mart store.

⇨**After first announcing** its interest in the Great Falls area in 1998, Old Navy is building a family clothing store in the Great Falls Marketplace that is expected to open by summer or fall of 2000. Old Navy is a division of GAP, Inc. It has 450 stores nationwide.

⇨**Denver Mattress** has also announced that it will build a store in the Great Falls Marketplace. The Denver-based company manufactures mattresses at its headquarters and sells them in 9 states. It already has a store in Billings.

⇨**A second Big R store** is planned for Billings. According to a spokesperson for Shipton's Big R, the store will be located on the west end of Billings and is expected to be open by summer.

⇨**An Eddie Bauer store** is opening in Bozeman's Gallatin Valley Mall by March, according to a mall spokesperson.

⇨**A microbrewery and restaurant** is planned for West Yellowstone. Wolf Pack Brewing Co. will brew German-style beers.

⇨**Montana Silvermiths** has opened a factory outlet store in Columbus in association with Haddy's Department Store. The Montana Silversmiths Factory Outlet sells some silver jewelry items at a 30 to 50 percent discount, along with first-line or catalog items at regular prices.

⇨**A Sears dealer store** has opened in Hamilton, selling appliances, electronics, tools, and lawn and garden equipment.

⇨**Chapman's Variety Mart** is closing in Libby. The family-owned business had been in operation since 1939.

⇨**Ace Hardware** has closed in Cut Bank.

⇨**Ben Franklin** is closing in Conrad. The store owners say it was hard to find suppliers interested in small town businesses.

Services

⇨**Bozeman-based Right Now Technologies** has secured $16 million in venture funding to expand its business. The company produces Smart Assistant software that collects frequently asked customer e-mail questions for companies and matches them with answers developed earlier to similar questions. It has 140 workers and is building 2 new office buildings south of Bozeman. It has opened a 22-employee marketing office in Dallas and plans to expand in the United Kingdom and Germany.

⇨**Butte's MSE Technology Applications Inc. is reducing** its staff of about 260 employees by 20 in order to offset a $3 million cut in research funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. The company recently announced it has entered a 50-50 partnership with a German company, Metec, to buy Lanxide Corp., an advanced materials firm based in Newark, Del. It will be called Advanced Materials Lanxide and will continue to produce metal matrix composites.

⇨**A Missoula-based managed-care company,** VYDAS Resources Inc. (VRI), has been acquired by Maryland-based American Psych Systems, Inc. (APS). The executive officer of VRI says the merger will not affect VRI's 210 employees, 116 of whom work in Missoula. VRI operates in Montana, Idaho, Washington, Utah, North Dakota and Arizona. It acts as a consultant to businesses with workers' compensation and disability concerns; offers a behavioral health program that deals with worker problems such as drug and alcohol abuse and psychological problems; and manages medical services for companies. VRI will operate as a division of APS, which will give VRI growth opportunities in the East and Southeast, according to VRI's executive officer.

⇨**The Great Falls Clinic** is purchasing the Fairfield Health Services building in Fairfield, where it will operate a primary care clinic.

⇨**Church Universal and Triumphant** officials in Corwin Springs say the church is continuing to lay off employees. A church press release says employment is expected to drop from about 120 employees to between 60 and 75.

⇨**A Melanoma vaccine** developed at the Ribi ImmunoChem Inc. laboratory in Hamilton now owned by Corixa Corp. has been approved for use in Canada. The Melacine vaccine has been found to stimulate the immune systems and extend the lives of some advanced melanoma patients by an average of 18 months.

⇨**A franchise of a California-based** computer training company has opened in Billings. New Horizons does both classroom and onsite computer software training, and also markets computer- and web-based training.

⇨**A Billings man has developed** a hazardous chemical inventory and training service. Maximum Compliance Technologies Inc. makes it easier for companies to comply with federal laws that require companies to inventory hazardous chemicals and provide training to employees regarding the physical and health hazards of those chemicals. Max Com has categorized and developed a color-coded labeling system for 300,000 chemicals along with a computer-based training program that must be passed before employees take lab classes. It also has developed quick-response hardcover manuals that are kept at work stations along with cleanup gear. ■

Information used in the preceding industry briefs was gathered primarily from state newspaper reports.

TABLE 1-A
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

99 BMK
December 1999 (P)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
U.S. (In thousands)	**139,941**	**134,696**	**5,245**	**3.7%**
MONTANA	472,319	447,287	25,032	5.3%
YELLOWSTONE	73,909	70,953	2,956	4.0%
CASCADE	38,361	36,472	1,889	4.9%
MISSOULA	53,664	51,500	2,164	4.0%
BEAVERHEAD	5,074	4,840	234	4.6%
BIG HORN	5,230	4,748	482	9.2%
BLAINE	2,953	2,732	221	7.5%
BROADWATER	2,077	1,969	108	5.2%
CARBON	4,991	4,720	271	5.4%
CARTER	943	932	11	1.2%
CHOUTEAU	2,780	2,667	113	4.1%
CUSTER	5,828	5,528	300	5.1%
DANIELS	1,214	1,160	54	4.4%
DAWSON	5,521	5,372	149	2.7%
DEER LODGE	4,012	3,660	352	8.8%
FALLON	1,600	1,544	56	3.5%
FERGUS	6,195	5,760	435	7.0%
FLATHEAD	37,855	35,118	2,737	7.2%
GALLATIN	41,837	40,514	1,323	3.2%
GARFIELD	956	906	50	5.2%
GLACIER	5,085	4,273	812	16.0%
GOLDEN VALLEY	539	494	45	8.3%
GRANITE	1,312	1,222	90	6.9%
HILL	9,557	9,045	512	5.4%
JEFFERSON	4,823	4,578	245	5.1%
JUDITH BASIN	1,283	1,220	63	4.9%
LAKE	12,795	12,040	755	5.9%
LEWIS & CLARK	27,049	25,820	1,229	4.5%
LIBERTY	1,237	1,199	38	3.1%
LINCOLN	7,177	6,304	873	12.2%
MCCONE	1,114	1,073	41	3.7%
MADISON	3,980	3,779	201	5.1%
MEAGHER	1,103	1,020	83	7.5%
MINERAL	1,602	1,413	189	11.8%
MUSSELSHELL	1,763	1,605	158	9.0%
PARK	10,775	10,002	773	7.2%
PETROLEUM	295	279	16	5.4%
PHILLIPS	2,343	2,185	158	6.7%
PONDERA	3,428	3,261	167	4.9%
POWDER RIVER	1,253	1,206	47	3.8%
POWELL	2,442	2,320	122	5.0%
PRAIRIE	658	631	27	4.1%
RAVALLI	17,605	16,446	1,159	6.6%
RICHLAND	5,637	5,362	275	4.9%
ROOSEVELT	4,617	4,159	458	9.9%
ROSEBUD	4,746	4,439	307	6.5%
SANDERS	4,456	4,070	386	8.7%
SHERIDAN	2,073	1,960	113	5.5%
SILVER BOW	16,993	15,985	1,008	5.9%
STILLWATER	4,842	4,641	201	4.2%
SWEET GRASS	1,688	1,641	47	2.8%
TETON	3,273	3,160	113	3.5%
TOOLE	2,843	2,733	110	3.9%
TREASURE	511	486	25	4.9%
VALLEY	4,579	4,378	201	4.4%
WHEATLAND	1,273	1,201	72	5.7%
WIBAUX	571	562	9	1.6%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	31,872	30,398	1,474	4.6%

SOURCE: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS) DATA SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION.

TABLE 1-B
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

99 BMK
November 1999 (R)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
U.S. (In thousands)	**139,895**	**134,515**	**5,380**	**3.8%**
MONTANA	474,811	452,111	22,700	4.8%
YELLOWSTONE	73,032	70,359	2,673	3.7%
CASCADE	38,284	36,574	1,710	4.5%
MISSOULA	53,907	52,096	1,811	3.4%
BEAVERHEAD	5,269	5,060	209	4.0%
BIG HORN	5,246	4,875	371	7.1%
BLAINE	3,071	2,871	200	6.5%
BROADWATER	2,235	2,127	108	4.8%
CARBON	5,003	4,702	301	6.0%
CARTER	1,056	1,035	21	2.0%
CHOUTEAU	2,968	2,872	96	3.2%
CUSTER	5,919	5,651	268	4.5%
DANIELS	1,273	1,221	52	4.1%
DAWSON	5,532	5,346	186	3.4%
DEER LODGE	4,023	3,685	338	8.4%
FALLON	1,701	1,640	61	3.6%
FERGUS	6,281	6,013	268	4.3%
FLATHEAD	37,984	35,325	2,659	7.0%
GALLATIN	42,010	40,495	1,515	3.6%
GARFIELD	1,040	1,005	35	3.4%
GLACIER	5,140	4,414	726	14.1%
GOLDEN VALLEY	586	539	47	8.0%
GRANITE	1,237	1,167	70	5.7%
HILL	9,621	9,102	519	5.4%
JEFFERSON	4,713	4,508	205	4.3%
JUDITH BASIN	1,356	1,304	52	3.8%
LAKE	12,899	12,237	662	5.1%
LEWIS & CLARK	26,517	25,428	1,089	4.1%
LIBERTY	1,295	1,255	40	3.1%
LINCOLN	7,253	6,530	723	10.0%
MCCONE	1,192	1,154	38	3.2%
MADISON	4,054	3,850	204	5.0%
MEAGHER	1,117	1,058	59	5.3%
MINERAL	1,582	1,460	122	7.7%
MUSSELSHELL	1,818	1,686	132	7.3%
PARK	10,998	10,272	726	6.6%
PETROLEUM	336	313	23	6.8%
PHILLIPS	2,484	2,313	171	6.9%
PONDERA	3,600	3,457	143	4.0%
POWDER RIVER	1,327	1,287	40	3.0%
POWELL	2,513	2,400	113	4.5%
PRAIRIE	718	702	16	2.2%
RAVALLI	17,806	16,836	970	5.4%
RICHLAND	5,746	5,502	244	4.2%
ROOSEVELT	4,628	4,233	395	8.5%
ROSEBUD	4,737	4,450	287	6.1%
SANDERS	4,513	4,149	364	8.1%
SHERIDAN	2,144	2,055	89	4.2%
SILVER BOW	16,908	16,034	874	5.2%
STILLWATER	4,785	4,614	171	3.6%
SWEET GRASS	1,794	1,745	49	2.7%
TETON	3,422	3,335	87	2.5%
TOOLE	2,955	2,845	110	3.7%
TREASURE	551	525	26	4.7%
VALLEY	4,671	4,509	162	3.5%
WHEATLAND	1,324	1,268	56	4.2%
WIBAUX	639	625	14	2.2%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	31,230	29,936	1,294	4.1%

SOURCE: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION.

TABLE 1-C
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

99 BMK
October 1999 (R)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
U.S. (in thousands)	**139,761**	**134,389**	**5,372**	**3.8%**
MONTANA	473,901	453,115	20,786	4.4%
YELLOWSTONE	73,305	70,608	2,697	3.7%
CASCADE	38,054	36,244	1,810	4.8%
MISSOULA	53,804	52,109	1,695	3.2%
BEAVERHEAD	5,361	5,146	215	4.0%
BIG HORN	5,273	4,937	336	6.4%
BLAINE	3,065	2,878	187	6.1%
BROADWATER	2,202	2,110	92	4.2%
CARBON	4,912	4,684	228	4.6%
CARTER	1,018	995	23	2.3%
CHOUTEAU	2,915	2,828	87	3.0%
CUSTER	6,113	5,867	246	4.0%
DANIELS	1,233	1,197	36	2.9%
DAWSON	5,513	5,336	177	3.2%
DEER LODGE	3,990	3,705	285	7.1%
FALLON	1,682	1,615	67	4.0%
FERGUS	6,218	5,967	251	4.0%
FLATHEAD	37,757	35,567	2,190	5.8%
GALLATIN	41,573	40,368	1,205	2.9%
GARFIELD	1,003	975	28	2.8%
GLACIER	5,224	4,580	644	12.3%
GOLDEN VALLEY	559	526	33	5.9%
GRANITE	1,213	1,162	51	4.2%
HILL	9,544	9,067	477	5.0%
JEFFERSON	4,725	4,518	207	4.4%
JUDITH BASIN	1,308	1,285	23	1.8%
LAKE	12,622	12,027	595	4.7%
LEWIS & CLARK	26,593	25,487	1,106	4.2%
LIBERTY	1,279	1,233	46	3.6%
LINCOLN	7,232	6,624	608	8.4%
MCCONE	1,247	1,209	38	3.0%
MADISON	4,125	3,953	172	4.2%
MEAGHER	1,074	1,023	51	4.7%
MINERAL	1,627	1,512	115	7.1%
MUSSELSHELL	1,820	1,689	131	7.2%
PARK	11,068	10,619	449	4.1%
PETROLEUM	329	316	13	4.0%
PHILLIPS	2,470	2,293	177	7.2%
PONDERA	3,550	3,394	156	4.4%
POWDER RIVER	1,314	1,270	44	3.3%
POWELL	2,465	2,375	90	3.7%
PRAIRIE	683	668	15	2.2%
RAVALLI	17,820	16,987	833	4.7%
RICHLAND	5,764	5,520	244	4.2%
ROOSEVELT	4,598	4,190	408	8.9%
ROSEBUD	4,751	4,436	315	6.6%
SANDERS	4,523	4,210	313	6.9%
SHERIDAN	2,123	2,041	82	3.9%
SILVER BOW	17,343	16,530	813	4.7%
STILLWATER	4,717	4,540	177	3.8%
SWEET GRASS	1,800	1,749	51	2.8%
TETON	3,437	3,332	105	3.1%
TOOLE	2,885	2,777	108	3.7%
TREASURE	536	521	15	2.8%
VALLEY	4,572	4,421	151	3.3%
WHEATLAND	1,347	1,288	59	4.4%
WIBAUX	620	605	15	2.4%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	31,318	30,005	1,313	4.2%

SOURCE: LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION

TABLE II
MONTANA CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY STATISTICS
(IN THOUSANDS)

1999 ANNUAL DATA **(Preliminary)**	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	469.0	471.3	470.7	474.9	476.7	478.7	487.7	481.9	471.9	473.9	474.8	472.3	475.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	439.2	440.4	440.9	449.3	454.3	455.9	467.0	461.6	451.9	453.1	452.1	447.3	451.1
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE 2/	36.7	37.3	34.7	36.5	36.6	37.7	36.3	35.9	35.5	40.5	41.7	34.4	36.9
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	29.8	30.9	29.8	25.6	22.4	22.8	20.7	20.3	20.0	20.8	22.7	25.0	24.2
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.3%	6.6%	6.3%	5.4%	4.7%	4.8%	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	4.4%	4.8%	5.3%	5.1%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.2%	5.4%	5.4%	5.4%	5.1%	4.9%	4.7%	5.2%	5.2%	4.9%	4.8%	4.9%	5.1%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	4.8%	4.7%	4.4%	4.1%	4.0%	4.5%	4.5%	4.2%	4.1%	3.8%	3.8%	3.7%	4.2%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	4.3%	4.4%	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%	4.3%	4.3%	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	4.2%

1998 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	455.5	459.6	462.3	465.9	467.4	474.0	480.8	476.3	467.6	468.6	469.1	466.7	467.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	424.1	428.1	431.6	439.8	442.9	447.9	456.7	454.8	445.8	444.7	442.7	439.4	441.5
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE 2/	26.8	27.4	27.9	31.8	39.3	40.1	38.2	40.2	38.6	37.5	42.7	35.8	35.5
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	31.4	31.5	30.7	26.1	24.5	26.1	24.1	21.5	21.8	23.9	26.4	27.3	26.3
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.9%	6.8%	6.6%	5.6%	5.2%	5.5%	5.0%	4.5%	4.7%	5.1%	5.6%	5.9%	5.6%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.5%	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%	5.4%	5.6%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	5.2%	5.0%	5.0%	4.1%	4.2%	4.7%	4.7%	4.5%	4.4%	4.2%	4.1%	4.0%	4.5%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	4.6%	4.6%	4.7%	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.3%	4.5%

1997 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	442.9	446.5	449.4	453.1	454.5	460.2	468.1	465.2	455.8	455.9	455.8	456.1	455.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	415.1	418.6	422.1	428.9	432.7	436.4	445.1	444.6	435.4	433.3	430.4	428.1	430.9
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE 2/	24.7	22.9	27.0	28.1	32.4	36.0	38.2	40.1	41.6	37.4	33.9	26.3	32.4
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	27.8	27.9	27.3	24.2	21.8	23.8	23.0	20.6	20.4	22.6	25.4	28.0	24.4
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.3%	6.2%	6.1%	5.3%	4.8%	5.2%	4.9%	4.4%	4.5%	5.0%	5.6%	6.1%	5.4%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.1%	5.0%	5.1%	5.4%	5.2%	5.3%	5.4%	5.4%	5.4%	5.5%	5.6%	5.7%	5.4%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	5.9%	5.7%	5.5%	4.8%	4.7%	5.2%	5.0%	4.8%	4.7%	4.4%	4.3%	4.4%	4.9%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	5.3%	5.3%	5.1%	5.0%	4.9%	5.0%	4.9%	4.9%	4.9%	4.7%	4.6%	4.7%	4.9%

1996 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	432.8	437.6	440.4	444.5	445.5	452.7	459.2	455.7	447.0	446.7	445.6	443.3	445.9
EMPLOYED PERSONS	403.1	407.7	412.3	420.5	423.5	429.4	437.5	436.7	428.3	427.0	423.9	419.3	422.4
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE 2/	30.5	29.5	39.0	35.6	37.1	37.4	39.3	37.8	36.6	36.2	31.4	28.7	34.5
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	29.7	29.9	28.1	24.0	22.0	23.3	21.7	19.0	18.7	19.7	21.7	24.0	23.5
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.9%	6.8%	6.4%	5.4%	4.9%	5.1%	4.7%	4.2%	4.2%	4.4%	4.9%	5.4%	5.3%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.6%	5.6%	5.4%	5.5%	5.4%	5.3%	5.2%	5.2%	5.1%	5.0%	4.9%	5.0%	5.3%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	6.3%	6.0%	5.8%	5.4%	5.4%	5.5%	5.6%	5.1%	5.0%	4.9%	5.0%	5.0%	5.4%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	5.6%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.6%	5.3%	5.5%	5.1%	5.2%	5.2%	5.4%	5.4%	5.4%

1/ESTIMATES BASED ON NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SAMPLE, CENSUS AND OTHER RELATIONSHIPS: INCLUDES SELF-EMPLOYED, UNPAID FAMILY AND DOMESTIC WORKERS. CURRENT MONTH PRELIMINARY. REVISED TO 1999 BENCHMARKS.
2/NONADDITIVE: INCLUDED IN TOTAL EMPLOYMENT.
3/COMPUTED FROM WHOLE (UNROUNDED) NUMBERS. RESIDENCE SERIES BEGAN IN JANUARY 1970.
SOURCE. LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTES S-1 AND S-2 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION.

TABLE III
M O N T A N A
STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

98BM

1999 (Preliminary)

(Page 1)

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1999	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS	367.1	368.7	371.6	376.7	382.3	384.4	384.0	386.5	388.3	390.3	388.1	386.6	381.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	287.6	288.6	289.9	295.0	301.2	308.7	312.3	314.2	309.8	308.2	305.8	305.5	302.2
GOODS PRODUCING	45.1	45.3	45.1	47.3	49.3	50.7	52.0	52.9	52.3	52.3	51.1	49.4	49.4
SERVICE PRODUCING	322.0	323.4	326.5	329.4	333.0	333.7	332.0	333.6	336.0	338.0	337.0	337.2	331.8
PRIVATE SERVICE PRODUCING	242.5	243.3	244.8	247.7	251.9	258.0	260.3	261.3	257.5	255.9	254.7	256.1	252.8
MINING	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1
METAL MINING	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0
GOLD & SILVER ORES	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
COAL MINING	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
OIL & GAS EXTRACTION	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
NONMETALLIC MINERALS	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8
CONSTRUCTION	15.6	15.7	16.1	18.2	19.8	20.8	21.8	22.5	22.4	22.3	21.3	19.7	19.7
GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTORS	4.9	4.9	4.8	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.8	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	5.6
HEAVY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT.	2.3	2.4	2.6	3.6	4.3	4.6	4.9	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.2	3.3	3.9
SPECIAL TRADE CONTRACTORS	8.4	8.4	8.7	9.5	10.3	10.7	11.1	11.3	11.2	11.2	10.8	10.2	10.2
MANUFACTURING	24.5	24.6	24.1	24.0	24.2	24.6	24.9	25.1	24.8	25.0	24.8	24.7	24.6
DURABLE GOODS	15.2	15.2	15.1	15.0	15.2	15.5	15.7	15.8	15.5	15.5	15.4	15.4	15.4
LUMBER & WOOD PRODUCTS	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.8	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.2
*LOGGING	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2
SAWMILLS & PLANING	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3
*STONE, CLAY & GLASS	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
NONDURABLE GOODS	9.3	9.4	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.2	9.3	9.3	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.2
FOOD & KINDRED PRODUCTS	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.6
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1
TRANS., COMM & UTILITIES	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.8	22.0	22.0	21.9	22.0	22.1	22.6	22.7	22.8	22.1
TRANSPORTATION	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.0	14.2	14.5	14.8	14.9	15.0	14.3
RAILROAD	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.0
LOCAL & INTERURBAN	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.6
TRUCKING & WAREHOUSE	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.9
COMMUNICATIONS & UTILS	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8
COMMUNICATIONS	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
TELEPHONE COMM	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1
ELECTRIC,GAS,SANITARY	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
COMBINATION UTILITY	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9
TRADE	98.0	97.6	98.3	99.4	101.7	104.3	104.9	105.8	104.6	103.0	103.1	103.3	102.0
WHOLESALE TRADE	19.0	19.0	19.1	19.3	19.4	19.5	19.4	19.5	19.3	19.3	19.4	19.3	19.3
WHOLESALE - DURABLES	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.1	10.2
WHOLESALE - NONDURABLE	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.2	9.3	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.1
RETAIL TRADE	79.0	78.6	79.2	80.1	82.3	84.8	85.5	86.3	85.3	83.7	83.7	84.0	82.7
BLDNG MATERIALS, GRDN SUPL	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.5
GENERAL MERCHANDISE	8.8	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.8	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.1	9.5	9.8	8.9
DEPARTMENT STORES	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	8.2	8.4	7.7
FOOD STORES	11.1	11.1	11.0	11.1	11.3	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.4	11.5	11.4	11.4
AUTOMOTIVE DEALERS	11.6	11.6	11.7	11.9	12.1	12.3	12.4	12.4	12.3	12.3	12.2	12.0	12.1
NEW, USED CAR DEALER	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.7

SOURCE: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES) DATA SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-4 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION
ALSO REFERENCE CES-790 PROGRAM DEFINITION ON "GLOSSARY OF TERMS" PAGE.

*ITEMS MARKED WITH AN * ARE PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY FOR USE AS STATE ECONOMIC INDICATORS.

CES

TABLE III
MONTANA
STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

98 BM

1999 (Preliminary)

(Page 2)

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1999	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
GAS STATIONS	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.2
APPAREL & ACCESSORY	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.4
FURN, HOMEFURN, EQUIP	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.5
EATING & DRINKING	29.2	29.4	30.1	30.3	31.5	32.9	33.3	33.8	33.2	31.6	31.0	30.7	31.4
MISC. RETAIL	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.8	9.0	9.4	8.6
FINANCE, INS, REAL EST.	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.4	17.5	17.7	17.8	17.9	17.6	17.7	17.8	17.9	17.6
FINANCE	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.2
DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.5
COMMERCIAL BANKS	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7
INSURANCE	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7
INSURANCE CARRIERS	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
INSURANCE AGENTS	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3
REAL ESTATE	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
SERVICES	105.6	106.8	107.6	109.1	110.7	114.0	115.7	115.6	113.2	112.6	111.1	112.1	111.2
HOTELS & OTHR LODGING	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	9.2	11.3	12.3	12.0	10.7	9.3	8.3	8.6	9.5
PERSONAL SERVICES	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8
BUSINESS SERVICES	11.9	12.0	12.3	13.0	13.4	13.5	13.8	13.9	13.4	14.0	13.7	13.7	13.2
AUTO & MISC. REPAIR	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.6
AMUSEMENT, INCL MOVIES	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.8	9.1	9.9	10.5	10.8	10.1	9.1	8.8	8.8	9.3
HEALTH SERVICES	33.4	33.5	33.5	33.5	33.5	33.6	33.7	33.8	33.6	33.8	33.9	34.0	33.7
NURSING & PRSNL CARE	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
HOSPITALS	16.9	17.0	17.1	17.1	17.2	17.4	17.5	17.5	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.5	17.3
LEGAL SERVICES	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.3	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.6
SOCIAL SERVICES	11.9	12.2	12.3	12.3	12.2	12.1	11.8	11.8	12.0	12.3	12.4	12.6	12.2
RESIDENTIAL CARE	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0
MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION	8.8	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.3
ENGINEERING & MNGMENT	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.4
ENGINEER, ARCHITECTS	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
* ACCOUNTING, AUDITING	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	79.5	80.1	81.7	81.7	81.1	75.7	71.7	72.3	78.5	82.1	82.3	81.1	79.0
TOTAL FEDERAL GOVT.	11.9	11.9	11.9	12.2	12.9	13.6	13.9	13.9	13.4	12.7	12.2	11.9	12.7
TOTAL STATE GOVERNMENT	24.2	23.9	25.2	25.1	23.9	21.1	21.0	21.3	24.5	25.3	25.4	24.7	23.8
STATE EDUCATION	12.8	12.5	13.5	13.4	12.5	9.5	9.4	9.6	12.9	13.8	14.1	13.4	12.3
*OTHER STATE GOVT	11.4	11.4	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.6	11.6	11.7	11.6	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.5
TOTAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT	43.4	44.3	44.6	44.4	44.3	41.0	36.8	37.1	40.6	44.1	44.7	44.5	42.5
LOCAL EDUCATION	28.7	29.6	29.8	29.5	29.2	24.6	20.1	19.9	25.1	28.8	29.5	29.4	27.0
*OTHER LOCAL GOVT.	14.6	14.7	14.8	15.0	15.1	16.4	16.7	17.2	15.5	15.3	15.1	15.1	15.5

*SEE FOOTNOTE ON PAGE 1 OF THIS TABLE

TABLE IV
MONTANA
STATEWIDE FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

1999 (Preliminary)

98BM

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1999	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL JOBS	185.2	185.7	186.8	188.5	190.2	189.8	186.4	187.8	191.0	192.5	193.0	194.1	189.3
TOTAL PRIVATE	141.6	142.0	142.4	144.1	146.4	149.7	150.1	151.3	149.6	149.0	148.1	149.3	147.0
MINING	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
CONSTRUCTION	1.7	1.8	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.1
MANUFACTURING	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.5
DURABLE GOODS	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.9
NONDURABLE GOODS	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.6
TCU 1/	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.1
TRANSPORTATION	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.6
COMMUNICATIONS & UTILS	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
TRADE	46.4	45.9	46.0	47.0	48.1	49.7	49.6	50.5	49.7	49.1	49.1	49.5	48.4
WHOLESALE TRADE	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4
RETAIL TRADE	42.1	41.5	41.6	42.6	43.8	45.4	45.3	46.1	45.4	44.6	44.6	45.0	44.0
EATING & DRINKING	16.7	16.8	17.0	17.4	18.1	19.2	19.0	19.6	18.8	18.1	17.8	17.6	18.0
FIRE 2/	12.4	12.4	12.4	12.6	12.6	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.8	12.6
FINANCE	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.0
SERVICES	69.0	69.8	70.1	70.4	71.5	72.9	73.2	73.4	72.6	72.4	71.6	72.4	71.6
HOTELS & OTHR LODGING	5.0	5.1	4.8	4.8	5.6	6.9	7.4	7.3	6.5	5.7	5.1	5.3	5.8
HEALTH SERVICES	28.3	28.4	28.4	28.4	28.3	28.4	28.6	28.7	28.4	28.5	28.6	29.0	28.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	43.6	43.7	44.4	44.4	43.8	40.1	36.3	36.5	41.4	43.5	44.9	44.8	42.3
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.5	4.6	4.6	5.0
STATE GOVERNMENT	12.7	12.3	12.8	12.8	12.1	10.7	10.4	10.6	12.7	13.0	13.6	13.5	12.3
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	25.9	26.4	26.7	26.6	26.5	24.0	20.4	20.5	23.6	26.0	26.7	26.7	25.0

1/ TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION/UTILITIES
2/ FINANCE/INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT IS PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY FOR USE AS A STATE ECONOMIC INDICATOR.

SOURCE: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-5 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION
ALSO REFERENCE CES-790 PROGRAM DEFINITION ON "GLOSSARY OF TERMS" PAGE

CES

TABLE V
MONTANA HOURS & EARNINGS
For Private Nonagricultural Production Workers

	Production Workers (In Thousands)				Average Weekly Earnings			
	Oct. 1999	Nov. 1999	Dec. 1999	Dec. 1998	Oct. 1999	Nov. 1999	Dec. 1999	Dec. 1998
*TOTAL PRIVATE	260.0	257.2	256.7	248.6	$384.03	$377.71	$377.38	$370.43
MINING	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.9	$777.60	$768.71	$769.02	$719.93
*CONSTRUCTION	18.2	17.3	15.7	14.5	$656.63	$605.10	$601.33	$643.85
MANUFACTURING	18.1	18.0	18.0	17.9	$558.14	$546.44	$569.37	$555.61
Durable Goods	12.5	12.4	12.4	12.1	$537.20	$526.50	$552.18	$526.14
Nondurable	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8	$606.28	$590.11	$611.38	$614.26
*TCU 1/	20.0	19.9	20.0	19.3	$582.89	$579.10	$579.07	$563.60
*Transportation	13.2	13.3	13.4	12.4	$523.01	$516.26	$512.49	$502.88
*Comm. & Util.	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.9	$695.70	$707.71	$714.58	$675.29
*TRADE	90.6	90.6	90.7	88.8	$287.33	$283.28	$289.50	$275.42
*Wholesale Trade	16.1	16.1	16.0	15.8	$497.75	$495.19	$494.23	$486.02
*Retail Trade	74.5	74.5	74.7	73.0	$242.15	$237.67	$244.99	$229.94
*FIRE 2/	13.9	13.9	13.9	13.6	$389.20	$384.60	$387.20	$385.92
*SERVICES	95.0	93.5	94.5	90.6	$331.80	$333.46	$327.28	$322.66

	Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	Oct. 1999	Nov. 1999	Dec. 1999	Dec. 1998	Oct. 1999	Nov. 1999	Dec. 1999	Dec. 1998
*TOTAL PRIVATE	32.6	32.2	32.2	32.1	$11.78	$11.73	$11.72	$11.54
MINING	43.2	42.4	42.0	40.4	$18.00	$18.13	$18.31	$17.82
*CONSTRUCTION	38.9	37.1	36.4	38.6	$16.88	$16.31	$16.52	$16.68
MANUFACTURING	39.5	38.7	39.9	39.8	$14.13	$14.12	$14.27	$13.96
Durable Goods	39.5	38.6	40.1	39.5	$13.60	$13.64	$13.77	$13.32
Nondurable	39.6	38.9	39.7	40.2	$15.31	$15.17	$15.40	$15.28
*TCU 1/	38.5	38.3	38.4	37.8	$15.14	$15.12	$15.08	$14.91
*Transportation	38.4	38.1	37.6	37.5	$13.62	$13.55	$13.63	$13.41
*Comm. & Util.	38.5	38.8	40.1	38.5	$18.07	$18.24	$17.82	$17.54
*TRADE	30.6	30.2	30.7	30.1	$9.39	$9.38	$9.43	$9.15
*Wholesale Trade	38.2	37.6	37.3	37.3	$13.03	$13.17	$13.25	$13.03
*Retail Trade	29.0	28.6	29.2	28.6	$8.35	$8.31	$8.39	$8.04
*FIRE 2/	35.0	34.9	35.2	35.8	$11.12	$11.02	$11.00	$10.78
*SERVICES	30.0	29.8	29.3	29.2	$11.06	$11.19	$11.17	$11.05

1/ TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION/UTILITIES
2/ FINANCE/INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE

*ITEMS MARKED WITH AN *ARE PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY AS STATE ECONOMIC INDICATORS.

PRODUCTION WORKERS ARE NONSUPERVISORY AND NONGOVERNMENT PAYROLL PERSONNEL.

SOURCE: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES) DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-4 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION.
ALSO REFERENCE CES-790 PROGRAM DEFINITION ON "GLOSSARY OF TERMS" PAGE.

TABLE VI
THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U.S.
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

ALL ITEMS
(1982-1984 = 100)

	1999		1998		1997	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	164.3	161.0	161.6	158.4	159.1	156.3
February	164.5	161.1	161.9	158.5	159.6	156.8
March	165.0	161.4	162.2	158.7	160.0	157.0
April	166.2	162.7	162.5	159.1	160.2	157.2
May	166.2	162.8	162.8	159.5	160.1	157.2
June	166.2	162.8	163.0	159.7	160.3	157.4
July	166.7	163.3	163.2	159.8	160.5	157.5
August	167.1	163.8	163.4	160.0	160.8	157.8
September	167.9	164.7	163.6	160.2	161.2	158.3
October	168.2	165.0	164.0	160.6	161.6	158.5
November	168.3	165.1	164.0	160.7	161.5	158.5
December	168.3	165.1	163.9	160.7	161.3	158.2
Dec-to-Dec %	2.7%	2.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	1.5%
ANNUAL AVERAGE:	166.6	163.2	163.0	159.7	160.5	157.6
Ann Avg %	2.2%	2.2%	1.6%	1.3%	2.3%	2.3%

Expenditure Category CPI-U Index	Relative Importance	Dec. 1999	% Change From Nov. 1999	% Change From Dec. 1998	Ann Average % 1999	Ann Average % 1998
ALL ITEMS	100%	168.3	0.0%	2.7%	2.2%	1.6%
Food & Beverages	16%	165.9	0.1%	2.0%	2.2%	2.2%
Housing	40%	164.8	-0.1%	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%
Apparel	5%	130.1	-2.6%	-0.5%	-1.3%	0.1%
Transportation	17%	148.3	0.5%	5.4%	2.0%	-1.9%
Medical Care	6%	254.2	0.4%	3.7%	3.5%	3.2%
Recreation	6%	102.0	0.1%	0.8%	0.9%	1.5%
Education and Communication	5%	102.3	0.1%	1.6%	0.9%	1.9%
Other Goods & Services	5%	263.0	0.0%	5.1%	8.7%	5.7%

Purchasing Power Of Consumer Dollar:	Dec. 1999	Nov. 1999	Dec. 1998	Ann Average 1999	Ann Average 1998
(1982-84 = $1.00)	$0.59	$0.59	$0.61	$0.60	$0.61

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) IS A MEASURE OF THE AVERAGE CHANGE IN THE PRICES PAID BY URBAN CONSUMERS FOR A FIXED MARKET BASKET OF GOODS AND SERVICES. THE CPI IS CALCULATED MONTHLY FOR TWO POPULATION GROUPS, ONE CONSISTING ONLY OF THE URBAN HOUSEHOLDS WHOSE PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME IS DERIVED FROM THE EMPLOYMENT OF WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS (CPI-W). AS NEW USES WERE DEVELOPED FOR THE CPI IN RECENT YEARS, THE NEED FOR A BROADER AND MORE REPRESENTATIVE INDEX BECAME APPARENT. THE ALL-URBAN CONSUMER INDEX (CPI-U), INTRODUCED IN 1978, IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE 1982-84 BUYING HABITS OF ABOUT 80% OF THE NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION, COMPARED WITH 32% REPRESENTED IN CPI-W.

SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-6 ON "SOURCES OF DATA" PAGE AT BACK OF THIS PUBLICATION.

Note: The Bureau of Labor Statistics has begun using a new formula for calculating the basic components of the CPI-U and the CPI-W effective with the data starting January 1999.

TABLE VII

NEW AND CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES IN MONTANA

(December 1999 data is not available. The fourth quarter table will be published in this publication as soon as the numbers are available.)

AREAS	New July To Sept. 1999	Changed July To Sept. 1999	New July To Sept. 1998	Changed July To Sept. 1998	Year-to-Date 1999	Year-to-Date 1998
State of MT	860	287	731	280	3872	4016
Great Falls MSA	42	12	51	25	201	265
Billings MSA	115	43	98	31	495	508
Missoula MSA	80	34	66	29	390	381
Multi County	111	12	83	15	491	390
Anaconda-Butte LFA	42	12	41	23	220	239
Beaverhead	6	2	7	1	38	41
Deer Lodge	6	1	1	4	25	29
Granite	1	0	0	0	10	5
Madison	8	0	5	7	39	47
Powell	2	3	3	3	14	13
Silver Bow	19	6	25	8	94	104
Bozeman LFA	121	32	94	34	502	499
Gallatin	96	24	74	26	399	407
Meagher	1	0	1	0	7	6
Park	24	8	19	8	96	86
Glasgow LFA	23	8	14	11	76	99
Daniels	3	2	2	0	14	7
Phillips	5	1	2	4	15	22
Roosevelt	10	2	4	4	23	27
Sheridan	2	1	2	3	10	18
Valley	3	2	4	0	14	25
Glendive LFA	9	3	14	3	59	77
Dawson	2	0	5	1	24	28
Garfield	0	0	2	0	2	5
McCone	0	0	0	0	2	3
Prairie	0	0	1	0	1	5
Richland	7	3	6	2	29	34
Wibaux	0	0	0	0	1	2
Hardin-Red Lodge LFA	24	9	26	3	109	128
Big Horn	7	1	4	0	25	17
Carbon	9	4	12	2	38	51
Stillwater	4	3	6	1	30	42
Sweet Grass	4	1	4	0	16	18

CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES ARE SUCCESSORS TO ACTIVE ACCOUNTS (AN ESTABLISHED BUSINESS WITH A NEW OWNER) WHICH ACCOUNT FOR OVER ONE-FOURTH OF THE TOTAL.

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area
LFA-Labor Force Area

SOURCE: This table was prepared by the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis, from Unemployment Insurance (UI) administrative records and is produced for informational purposes only.

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(December 1999 data is not available. The fourth quarter table will be published in this publication as soon as the numbers are available.)

AREAS	New July To Sept. 1999	Changed July To Sept. 1999	New July To Sept. 1998	Changed July To Sept. 1998	Year-to-Date 1999	Year-to-Date 1998
Havre LFA	6	8	11	6	57	77
Blaine	2	5	2	2	16	17
Hill	3	2	8	4	36	46
Liberty	1	1	1	0	5	14
Helena LFA	57	24	38	21	242	264
Broadwater	2	0	3	3	13	12
Jefferson	3	3	6	3	28	28
Lewis & Clark	52	21	29	15	201	224
Kalispell LFA	119	44	102	37	544	572
Flathead	94	35	65	26	396	398
Lake	20	5	22	6	93	93
Lincoln	5	4	15	5	55	81
Lewistown LFA	15	7	16	9	73	74
Fergus	7	5	9	4	43	43
Golden Valley	1	0	0	1	1	5
Judith Basin	2	1	2	1	7	9
Musselshell	5	0	3	2	16	9
Petroleum	0	0	1	0	1	1
Wheatland	0	1	1	1	5	7
Miles City LFA	15	11	14	5	80	106
Carter	0	0	0	1	2	2
Custer	6	6	8	1	42	39
Fallon	3	2	0	1	12	18
Powder River	2	0	0	0	6	14
Rosebud	3	3	6	2	17	30
Treasure	1	0	0	0	1	3
Missoula LFA	138	52	111	49	620	612
Mineral	3	2	0	0	14	14
Missoula	80	34	66	29	390	381
Ravalli	47	12	37	15	161	157
Sanders	8	4	8	5	55	60
Shelby-Cut Bank LFA	23	10	18	8	103	106
Chouteau	4	0	3	2	14	20
Glacier	7	1	4	0	27	17
Pondera	4	1	3	1	18	17
Teton	5	3	4	3	18	26
Toole	3	5	4	2	26	26

CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES ARE SUCCESSORS TO ACTIVE ACCOUNTS (AN ESTABLISHED BUSINESS WITH A NEW OWNER) WHICH ACCOUNT FOR OVER ONE-FOURTH OF THE TOTAL.

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area
LFA-Labor Force Area

SOURCE. This table was prepared by the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis, from Unemployment Insurance (UI) administrative records and is produced for informational purposes only.

Glossary of Terms

1.Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the armed forces.

2.Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3.Unemployed - those persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4.Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5.Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6.Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7.Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed using the X-11 ARIMA method of seasonal adjustment. This is the same method used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to seasonally adjust the national labor force series.

8.MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area - as determined by the Office of Management and Budget. The MSA must have a central city with a population of 50,000 or more.

9.LFA - Labor Force Area as determined by the Office of Research and Analysis, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, consists of a central city or cities with a population of less than 50,000 and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

10.SDA - The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) was established to replace CETA in job search, placement, relocation and training assistance. Each state designs local plans for JTPA programs through a Private Industry Council (PIC). Each PIC jurisdiction is known as Service Delivery Area (SDA). The 2 SDAs for Montana are known as Rural CEP (Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Madison, Meagher, Powell, and Silver Bow counties) and Balance of State (the other 46 counties).

11.BENCHMARKING - It is a continuous process of establishing a new set of data which affects the series of estimates through revisions. Once a new benchmark is established, the adjustments to estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one are carried forward progressively to the current month by use of sample trends. The benchmark is established less frequently (usually once a year) based on sample or secondary data. In the case of employment data, the benchmark is used to establish the level of employment, while the sample is primarily used to measure the month - to - month changes in the level.

12.CES-790 Program - current employment statistics survey produces monthly estimates of a wide variety of employment and earnings information for the nation and each state. Because this information comes from a survey of employers, persons who work for 2 different companies would be counted twice. Thus, nonagricultural employment is actually a count of the number of jobs filled, rather than the number of persons employed.

Sources of Data

S-1.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). LAUS data (Local Area Unemployment Statistics program) is adjusted to the Current Population Survey benchmark and is the official BLS approved series that is used to allocate federal funds and determine eligibility for federal assistance programs. This series represents employment and unemployment by place of residence, and is not comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series (CES data). LAUS data is calculated for the week that includes the 12th of the month. Workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. Total employment in the labor force also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestic workers and the self-employed.

S-2.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis. The unadjusted unemployment rate is prepared by the LAUS program in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The seasonally adjusted rate is an unofficial series, and is provided only for use as a state economic indicator.

S-3.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis from LAUS data. Data for Service Delivery Areas and Labor Force Areas is calculated from the official data series by summing up employment and unemployment for the appropriate counties involved, and calculating an unemployment rate from the summed data for each area.

S-4.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data from the CES (Current Employment Statistics) program represents nonagricultural wage and salary employment by place of work, and covers full-time and part-time employees who worked during, or received pay for, the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The data excludes the self-employed, volunteers, unpaid family workers and domestic workers. Persons on sick leave, vacations, or holidays (and being paid for that period by their employer) are considered employed. Payroll and worker hour data is collected for production and related workers in manufacturing industries, nonsupervisory workers in private service-producing industries, and construction workers in construction industries. The earnings figures are "gross" figures—that is, they reflect changes in wage rates, shift differentials and premium pay for overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received, which is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

S-5.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis from a survey of Business Establishments as part of the BLS-790 Program. Information on women workers is computed as a ratio of all employees of the Current Employment Statistics, and is produced for informational purposes only.

S-6.) Tabulations produced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, and reprinted by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Office of Research and Analysis for informational purposes only. This is a national data series because Montana data is not computed separately.

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• Forecast of nonagricultural payroll jobs in Montana, 1999 and 2000

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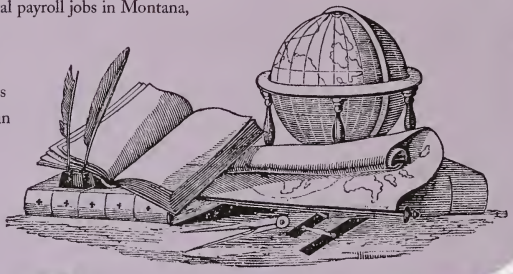

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